

Allowance

1. The time period for paying the issue fee is hereby reset to the mailing of this supplemental Allowance.
2. A supplemental Allowance is included herein to **replace** the Examiner's amendment in the Allowance of 9/30/2010.

Election/Restrictions

The restriction set forth in the office action of 10/11/2006 is hereby withdrawn.

Withdrawn claims 28-36 and 88-89 are hereby rejoined.

Claims 28-36 and 88-89 are cancelled.

Claims 17-24, 26, 27, 86, 90-96 and 97-100 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Warren Cheek on 9/21/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims, add new claims:

97. A method of analyzing a polynucleotide, which method comprises:
applying a labeled polynucleotide or fragment thereof to the apparatus according to claim 17 under hybridization conditions, and
analyzing the polynucleotide or fragment thereof by observing the regions where the polynucleotide or fragment thereof hybridizes and the regions where the polynucleotide or fragment thereof does not hybridize.

98. A method of comparing polynucleotide sequences, which method comprises: applying the polynucleotides to the apparatus according to claim 17 under hybridizing conditions, and observing differences between the patterns of hybridization.

99. A method of analyzing a polynucleotide, which method comprises:
applying a labeled polynucleotide or fragment thereof to the apparatus according to claim 86 under hybridization conditions, and
analyzing the polynucleotide or fragment thereof by observing the regions where the polynucleotide or fragment thereof hybridizes and the regions where the polynucleotide or fragment thereof does not hybridize.

100. A method of comparing polynucleotide sequences, which method comprises: applying the polynucleotides to the apparatus according to claim 86 under hybridizing conditions, and observing differences between the patterns of hybridization.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anna Skibinsky whose telephone number is (571) 272-4373. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marjorie Moran can be reached on (571) 272-0720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Examiner, Art Unit 1631

/Marjorie Moran/
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